

**Minutes
of the
First Meeting
of the
Los Alamos National Laboratory Oversight Committee
June 4, 2004 ★ Santa Fe**

The first meeting of the Los Alamos national laboratory (LANL) oversight committee was called to order at 10:40 a.m. in Room 309, State Capitol by Representative Roberto "Bobby" J. Gonzales, co-chairman.

Present were:

Rep. Roberto "Bobby" J. Gonzales, co-chairman
Sen. Phil A. Griego, co-chairman
Rep. Thomas A. Anderson
Sen. Manny M. Aragon
Rep. Debbie A. Rodella
Rep. Nick L. Salazar
Sen. William E. Sharer

Absent was:

Advisory members:

Rep. Ben Lujan
Sen. Richard C. Martinez

Rep. Jeannette O. Wallace

Staff:

Jonelle Maison
Cenissa Martinez

Guests: The guest list is in the meeting file.

Interim Work Plan — Meeting Dates

The co-chairmen welcomed the members to the third interim of the committee and expressed their individual interests in the proposed topics of the work plan. Senator Griego expressed keen interest in issues of homeland security and Representative Gonzales spoke of the need for the legislature to monitor efforts by New Mexico public schools and post-secondary educational institutions to provide a well-educated work force for LANL.

The committee was in general agreement on the proposed work plan. Senator Aragon suggested that part of the first meeting be devoted to progress reports on issues covered during the past two years and to hear testimony from the federal department of energy on its plans for the national laboratories in New Mexico. As part of the committee's topics on education, Representative Rodella recommended hearing about LANL's efforts to recruit New Mexico graduates and the tuition assistance program for lab employees. Representative Salazar asked to hear testimony on LANL's collaboration with northern New Mexico community college (NNMCC) and other post-secondary schools on curriculum and work-study. Representative

Gonzales discussed the importance of LANL employment forecasting on educational planning and Senator Sharer opined that both secondary and post-secondary schools should use specific employment information from LANL to drive curricula changes and student choice of study. In reference to the bill passed last session allowing NNMCC to grant four-year degrees in certain areas, Senator Aragon said the state needs to look at a regional university system so schools such as NNMCC can offer degrees more quickly.

Speaker Lujan and Representative Rodella discussed the committee's need to continue to study employment-related issues that remain outstanding, including the Welch report, salary disparities and minority hiring and promotion. Representative Rodella said the committee also must continue soliciting public comment on the operations of LANL.

Senator Aragon noted that the committee's counterpart California delegation will be meeting in New Mexico and New Mexico members should be available to meet with them. The committee agreed to request approval for per diem and mileage for the members to attend meetings with the California delegation.

The committee discussed having two meetings in Los Alamos and one meeting in Espanola. The committee will request approval to hold its last meeting in December instead of November, since finding a November meeting date on which members had no conflicts was difficult.

The committee adopted the following meeting schedule: July 12, Santa Fe; August 9, Santa Fe; September 17, Los Alamos; October 15, Santa Fe; and December 9-10, Espanola and Los Alamos.¹

There being no further business, the committee adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

¹Subject to legislative council approval